

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

By the above amendments, claim 1 has been amended for clarification purposes, and now recites "(A) an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate monomer." Support for this amendment can be found in the instant specification at least at pages 11-13.

In the Official Action, claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0039651 (*Murata*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,526,920 (*Sakashita et al*). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully request for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 is directed to an antireflection film comprising a transparent support, at least one hard coat layer and a low refractive index layer, in this order, wherein the hard coat layer includes a polymerized product of (A) an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate monomer and (B) a polyfunctional acrylate monomer having no oxide adduct.

Applicant has discovered that by the combined use of (A) and (B) to form a polymerized product, a hard coat layer can be formed which surprisingly has an improved scratch resistance while maintaining sufficient antireflection and antifouling characteristics (specification at page 3, lines 20-23). Such improved characteristics which can be obtained by the combined use of (A) and (B) are evident upon review of the examples set forth at pages 50-86, and especially in view of the scratch steel wool resistance characteristics set forth in Table 2 at pages 77-78.

Murata relates to an adhesive film which is suitable for use in displays such as liquid crystal displays, plasma displays, CRTs, ELs, etc. (col. 1, paragraph [0001]).

Murata does not disclose or suggest each feature recited in independent claim 1. For example, *Murata* does not disclose or suggest a hard coat layer including a polymerized product of (A) an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate monomer and (B) a polyfunctional acrylate monomer having no oxide adduct. There is simply no disclosure of the use of (A) an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate monomer to form a polymerized product. By comparison, *Murata* discloses various radiation curable resins at the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6, including ethoxy diethylene glycol acrylate, methoxy triethyleneglycol acrylate and ethylene glycol dimethacrylate. However, such compounds are monofunctional or difunctional acrylates, and none constitute an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate monomer as recited in claim 1.

Sakashita et al relates to a curable coating composition composed of an acryloyl or methacryloyl cyanurate or isocyanurate compound, an acrylic or methacrylic ester compound and a polymerization initiator capable of curing the above components (col. 1, lines 9-13).

Sakashita et al fails to cure the above-described deficiencies of *Murata*. In this regard, the Patent Office has relied on *Sakashita et al* for disclosing a resin that includes dipentaerythritol hexaacrylate and pentacrylate, and trimethylolpropane triacrylate (Official Action at page 2). However, none of such compounds constitute an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate monomer. Clearly, like *Murata*, *Sakashita et al* fails to disclose or suggest a hard coat layer including a polymerized product of (A) an ethylene oxide or propylene oxide adduct of a tri- to hexa-functional acrylate

monomer and (B) a polyfunctional acrylate monomer having no oxide adduct, as recited in claim 1.

For at least the above reasons, it is apparent that no *prima facie* case of obviousness exists. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

As a final matter, indication of the acceptance of the previously filed drawings (Figs. 1 and 2) is respectfully requested.

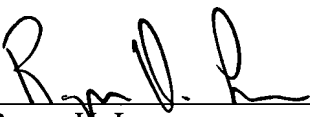
From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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